

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Antigone Drama was written in 496 BC -406 BC by Sophocles in Athens, Greece. It was translated in English by Dudley Fitts and Robbert Fitzgerald. In 429 BC, this drama was performed in Dionysus Theater, Athens. Antigone drama has 5 scenes. It also consists of 41 pages. This drama contains 9 characters. There are Antigone, Ismene, Creon, Haimon, Euridice, Chorus, Sentry, Teiresias, and Messenger. This Greek drama describes the struggle and competition which is full with a war, tragic incident, the struggle of power, etc.

Antigone Drama tells about the struggle of power of someone who causes tragic in family and state for a long time. The story begins when an oracle predicts that someday King Laios will be killed by his son. He believes oracle's words. After he knows that his wife, Jocasta, gives a son baby; he commands to kill him soon. He is scared. The fact, that baby is not killed but he is nursed by a farmer. They call him, Oedipus. When he is adult, that prognosis really happens. Oedipus fights with King Laios. Oedipus kills his father. He receives the throne and marries his mother.

After Oedipus becomes a King in Thebes, the state faces the epidemic suffering. Oedipus blames himself and he decides to go to exile. When Oedipus goes to exile, there is no one that leads the kingdom. Creon uses this

opportunity to occupy the position as King. He wants his son become next king in the Thebes. The fact, there are children of Oedipus. They are Polyneices and Eteocles.

Creon thinks if he takes the king's position, citizen cannot achieve it. So, Creon makes conflict between Polyneices and Eteocles. They are killing each other. Polyneices and Eteocles have died in the battle. In this case, Creon wants to know how the societies obey his rule as a new King. Creon examines society's loyalty by burying Eteocles, whereas Polyneices is not buried. He compares their death. Polyneices makes war in the country, while Eteocles defends it. Creon believes that their death relates with their father's mistake. Creon explains his rule explicitly that everyone who denies will get punishment. That punishment is death. He says that suffering will lose if he does not bury a traitor.

Person who denies the rule is Antigone but Creon must be consistent with his rule. He changes his punishment because she is his own niece. Creon puts Antigone in a vault until she dies. Antigone is also fiancé of his Son. Creon keeps his commitment, although Antigone is his family. Creon arranges strategy to support his goal. He always looks for opportunity to ensure the society that his decision is right. When he debates with Haimon, he defends his opinion to show to the society that he has authority as a King. Haimon says that Antigone's act to bury her brother is not a crime. She just wants to save Polyneices's corpse from birds and dogs. Haimon tries to realize his father. There is no relation kingdom's law when she buries her brother, but she feels

that it is her duty. Creon is angry with Haimon, because he thinks that Haimon is under the Antigone's influences. He supports the words of Antigone that her act to deny the law is right. Creon is stubborn man. He does not care whatever people say.

Teiresias says that Creon is wrong. Teiresias gives admonition that his act will be debacle to his family. Gods will cancel debacle if he freed Antigone from the cave and buries Polyneices soon. Creon hears the voice from Teiresias but he is late. When he opens the cave, he sees his son in the cave. Haimon cries because Antigone has died. His son takes the blade and he kills himself. His wife, Euridice, is also dead. She kills herself. He just regrets after he sees all of his family have died. Creon recognizes that his act causes the suffering of his family. His stubborn is bad thing. Now, he is alone. He feels very sad and lonely. He does it for his son. He wants to kill himself because he feels his life is not useful anymore. But he realizes that he must continue to lead his state.

Antigone made many controversies in society. It invites positive and negative comment about this drama. Many people were very interested in this drama because it is written by professional writer with the best story and the best plot. Jacksonville in Florida USA
(<http://onlineessays.com/essays/literature/antigone-creon-a-tragic-hero.html>)

said that "The drama is an excellent production to use in humanities or literature classes. It gives a sense of what the Ancient Greeks saw in the

theatre, while it updates the setting by having the costumes and uniforms suggest a totalitarian state”.

This drama also gets negative comment, it comes from Sport ell from Germany, said that “many people in the chorus was very annoying, so some many voices suddenly type in and take away from the drama, so make it just look foolish”. (<http://onlineessays.com/essays/literature/desire-anger-in-antigone.php>)

There are some aspects that make this drama really interesting. The first from character and characterization, this drama has two kinds of characters. There are major characters and minor characters. The major characters of this drama are Antigone, Creon and Ismene. They are important people but they have some problems about struggle of the power.

The second is from interesting setting. The author takes place in Thebes’s palace. It gives dramatic effect at the story so it makes tragedy seem more real.

The third is from the theme of this drama that is talking about the desire for power that cause tragic in family and state for a long time. It can make the readers feel sad, sympathy, and even cry.

The fourth is from the plot. This drama uses traditional plot. It can make the drama look real. It can make the readers easier to analyze the tragedy and understand the plot too.

The fifth is from the language style. The English language used in *Antigone* script is different from language used by many people now. The

author uses language Ancient Greek but it is translated into English by Dudley Fittz and Robert Fitzgerald. The using of language in this script makes the reader should understand the script content.

The sixth is the desire for power that is interesting to be studied by using psychoanalytic perspective. Psychoanalytic focuses on the personality of human being.

From the reason and with the background above, the writer analyzes the drama within the psychoanalytic perspective frame work into her research paper entitled **“DESIRE FOR POWER IN SOPHOCLES’S *ANTIGONE* DRAMA (496 BC – 406 BC): A PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE”**.

B. Literature Review

In this study, the researcher attempts to compare this research to another research relates to this topic. The first researcher comes from Samantha Fitzsimons (2006) entitled *“Law and Order in Sophocles’s Antigone”*. The result of the research, the tragic Creon victimized himself with his own pride and desire for complete loyalty to the state. His assertions as king led to demise by Antigone, who challenged his supremacy with divine law.

The second researcher comes from Nunung Soliah (2011) entitled *“Conflicts of Interest between the Family and the State in Sophocles’ Antigone”*. This study aims to explore the conflicts of interest between the family and the state in sophocles’ Antigone.

From literature reviews above, the present researcher assumes that there is no researcher who has analyzed Desire for Power in Sophocles' *Antigone* (496 BC-406 BC) by using Psychoanalytic Perspective.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the title and background of the study, the researcher will focus on the analysis of how the desire for power is reflected in Sophocles's *Antigone* drama.

D. Limitation of the Study

To carry out the study, the researcher needs to limit the study. It focuses on the analysis of character's personality and the ego desire for power, which appears using psychoanalytic perspective, because to know the phenomenon of psychological problem in the character.

E. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem stated above, the writer purposes the objectives of the study as follows:

1. Analyzing the structural elements of the drama *Antigone*, and
2. Analyzing the drama based on the psychoanalytic perspective.

F. Benefits of the Study

The study is expected to give benefit as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This research paper has some benefits, which give additional contributions to literature researches dealing with Sophocles *Antigone* Drama.

2. Practical Benefit

This research paper has a practical benefit, which is to give additional contributions to literature researches dealing with Sophocles *Antigone* Drama.

G. Research Method

Research methodology is an important thing in research. It consists of the subject of research, object of the research, and data analysis technique. The researcher will discuss all of the statements above as follows:

1. Type of the Study

The researcher uses descriptive qualitative method. Here the researcher tries to relate the discussion of analysis based on the underlying theory.

2. Object of the Study

The researcher takes Sophocles's *Antigone* Drama, which contains the series of drama description. Here, the researcher tries to analyze the desire for power that is reflected in the major character's personality.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The researcher here uses qualitative. This is a library research, which takes the source of the data from words and other writing. The writer divided the data source into two categories:

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source is taken from *Antigone* drama and the drama downloaded from <http://mthoyibi.wordpress.com>.

b. Secondary Data Source

Secondary data sources are some material related to the data required, such as writer biography, the data taken from official website, related theories, etc.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The writer uses two techniques of data collection:

- a. Taking notes for the important parts both in primary and secondary sources in data book or note book or by using computer.
- b. Library research

There are five procedures in library research:

- 1) Reading the drama in several times and determining the character that is analyzed,
- 2) Reading related books to find out the theory, data and information required,
- 3) Making notes of important part in both primary data and secondary data
- 4) Classifying the data into categories, and
- 5) Drawing conclusion to get the last result.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of Data Analysis in this study is descriptive and hermeneutic. Description means that the researcher interprets the text and content relating to the psychological condition of the major character, while hermeneutic interprets the script to find out the intension of the playwright.

H. Paper Organization

The writer makes an organization of this paper in order to make an easy understanding. There are five chapters in this research paper. Chapter I is introduction which consists of background of the study, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory. It deals with the notion of psychoanalytic theory, the basic concepts of psychoanalysis and theoretical application. Chapter III is structural analysis of the drama, including narrative and technical elements. Chapter IV discusses with the analysis of the major character using psychoanalytic criticism. Finally chapter V is conclusion and suggestion of the research.